

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE between Canada and the United States of America respecting the St. Lawrence Waterway Project—Appointment of a Joint Engineering Board.

No. 167

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 29, 1924.

My LORD,—I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's despatch No. 32 of the 10th ultimo regarding the Joint Engineering Board in connection with the improvement of the St. Lawrence River, and to transmit to you herewith a copy of a note received from the United States Government in reply to the representations which I made on the 12th ultimo. A copy of my note of that date was enclosed in my despatch No. 103 of the same day.

I have received a verbal communication from the State Department to the effect that the United States Government desire to release this note for publication at the earliest possible moment, and I should therefore be grateful if Your Excellency would inform me by telegraph, with the least possible delay, whether your Ministers concur in its publication.

I have the honour to be, My Lord,

Your Excellency's most humble servant,

(For the Ambassador)

(Sgd.) H. G. CHILTON.

His Excellency

THE LORD BYNG OF VIMY, G.C.B., etc., etc., etc.,
Governor-General of Canada,
OTTAWA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, April 28, 1924.

EXCELLENCY,—In your note of March 12, 1924, you informed me further in regard to the views of the Canadian Government with reference to the proposal for joint action by the United States and Canada for the improvement of the St. Lawrence River between Montreal and Lake Ontario for navigation and the development of water power.

In pursuance of the intention of this Government, as stated in my note of February 27, 1924, the President has appointed a national committee of nine members having as its Chairman the Honourable Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, which will act as an advisory committee to this Government on all questions that may arise in the consideration of the project.

While regretting that the Canadian Government does not desire that the committees for the two Governments shall meet in joint conferences, at least at the outset, to prepare instructions for the enlarged joint engineering board and to consider the broader aspects of the project for the proposed development of the St. Lawrence waterway, this Government would be grateful if you would inform the Canadian Government that the National Committee for the United States will be prepared at all times to meet in conference with

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the Canadian Committee in the event that circumstances should develop in the view of the Canadian Government would cause it to appear that joint conferences by the two committees or by representatives of the committees might be desirable for the consideration of any questions arising in connection with the project.

This Government is pleased to note that the Canadian Government concurs in its suggestion that the enlarged Joint Engineering Board shall consist of six members, three representing the United States and three representing Canada, and to accept the proposal of the Canadian Government that two technical officers be appointed by each Government for the purpose of formulating the terms in which the matters to be enquired into by the Board shall be defined.

The United States will be represented on the Joint Engineering Board by Colonel Edgar Jadwin, Colonel William Kelly, and Lieutenant Colonel George E. Pillsbury, Corps of Engineers, United States Army. Colonel Jadwin and Lieutenant Colonel Pillsbury will also act as technical officers for the United States to formulate in collaboration with the technical officers to be designated by the Canadian Government the instructions which will be given to the engineers.

This Government is also pleased to note the acceptance by the Government of Canada of the proposal of this Government that there shall be included in the first instructions to the Joint Engineering Board the two fundamental questions, whether the scheme for the improvement of the St. Lawrence River waterway which the Engineering Board submitted in its report of June 24, 1921, is practicable and whether the estimates of the costs of the project made by the Board require revision, and to agree to the suggestion made by the Dominion Government that amongst other matters the enlarged Board shall be directed to enquire into the extent to which the water levels in the St. Lawrence River at and below Montreal, as well as the river and lake levels generally, will be affected by the execution of the project.

It will, of course, be understood that the instructions drafted by the technical officers will be subject to review and approval by the appropriate officials of the respective Governments before they would be given to the Board of Engineers by the Governments in conformity with the remark made on that point in my note of February 27, 1924. In connection with such review and approval, the instructions drafted by the technical officers will be submitted by the officers for the United States to the National Committee, for this Government.

This Government would be pleased to be informed at the early convenience of the Canadian Government of the names of the technical officers appointed by that Government in order that the officers for the two Governments may make arrangements with as little delay as possible to collaborate in the drafting of the instructions for the joint engineering Board. This Government would also be pleased to be informed in due course of the names of the Canadian members of the Joint Engineering Board.

Accept Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(Sgd.) CHARLES E. HUGHES.

His Excellency

The Right Honourable

Sir ESME HOWARD, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.V.O.

Ambassador of Great Britain.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 101e

CODE TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL TO HIS
MAJESTY'S AMBASSADOR AT WASHINGTON

OTTAWA, May 7, 1924.

With reference to your despatch No. 167 of the 29th April. St. Lawrence River.

The Government of Canada has selected as its representatives on the Board—Duncan W. McLachlan, B.Sc., Ottawa; Olivier Odilon Lefebvre, Chief Engineer, of the Quebec Streams Commission, Montreal, P.Q.; and Brigadier-General Charles Hamilton Mitchell, C.B., C.M.G., B.A.Sc., C.E., of Toronto; and of them the two last mentioned will act as technical officers on its behalf to settle the terms of reference.

Canadian Government entirely concurs with the Government of the United States that it should be understood that the instructions drafted by the technical officers will be subject to approval by the respective Governments before being given to the Board, and these instructions will be submitted by the technical officers for Canada to the Canadian National Advisory Committee which has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Honourable George P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals, and which includes among its members the Honourable Walter Edward Foster, of St. John, N.B., the Honourable Sir Clifford Sifton, K.C.M.G., K.C., of Toronto, Ontario; Dr. Wilfrid Laurier McDougald, of Montreal, P.Q.; Major-General John William Stewart, C.B., C.M.G., of Vancouver, B.C., the Honourable Adelard Turgeon, C.M.G., C.V.O., of Quebec, P.Q.; and Messrs. Thomas Ahearn, of Ottawa, Beaudry Leman, B.Ss., C.E., of Montreal, P.Q.; and Edward D. Martin, of Winnipeg, Man.

The Canadian Government suggests that the unpublished despatches should be released for publication in the afternoon papers of Friday, May 9th.

(Sgd.) BYNG.

